

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jefferey R. Filipek, Reg., No. 41,471 on 04/02/2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the abstract line 3, replaced the word [means], by -- device --;

In the abstract line 5, replaced the word [means], by -- device --;

In the abstract line 8, replaced the word [means], by -- device --;

In the abstract line 9, both occurrences replaced the word [means], by -- device --;

In the abstract line 10, replaced the word [means], by -- device --;

In the abstract line 3, replaced the word [means], by -- device --;

In the abstract line 11, both occurrences replaced the word [means], by -- device --.

2. Claims 17-32 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fail to teach or fairly suggest with respect to claim 1, a robot controller having a route selecting means for controlling communications by switching

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connections among the motion control means, the recognition and planning means, and the input/output interface by means of a switch that has a plurality of external input/output ports and switches among digital signal paths respectively connected to the motion control means, the recognition and planning means, and the input/output interface, wherein...; and with respect to claim 18, a robot controller having a first route selecting means connected to the recognition and planning means by means of a switch that has a plurality of external input/output ports and switches a digital signal path connected to the recognition and planning means to one of the ports; and a second route selecting means connected to the motion control means, the first route selecting means, and the input/output interface by means of a switch that has a plurality of external input/output ports and switches among digital signal paths connected to the motion control means, the recognition and planning means, and the input/output interface in combination with the other features of the claimed invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MCDIEUNEL MARC whose telephone number is (571)272-6964. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30-5:00 Mon-Thu.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Khoi Tran can be reached on (571) 272-6919. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

**/McDieunel Marc/**  
Examiner, Art Unit 3664

Thursday, April 03, 2008  
MM/  
/Khoi H Tran/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3664